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From: Cathy Noh [cathy.noh@saylorcompany.com]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2010 9:56 AM
Subject: President Kokoity's Statement on Georgian Plan
Attachments: South Ossetian President's Statement on Georgia Plan February 1, 2010.pdf

Please consider the attached statement from President Eduard Kokoity on Georgia's reintegration program.

For more information on South Ossetia, please visit www.republicofsouthossetia.org.

Best regards,

Steve

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH OSSETIA IN RESPONSE TO GEORGIA'S REINTEGRATION PLAN

February 1, 2010

The Georgia plan to reintegrate South Ossetia is ethnic cleansing under the guise of diplomacy. For the plan to be implemented, citizens of South Ossetia would have to acknowledge that they are citizens of Georgia. They are not and never again will be. South Ossetia agrees that both countries would benefit from increased commerce, expanded cooperation in education, healthcare, and other citizen-to-citizen activities. In fact, we have made similar proposals to Tbilisi for decades, which have been refused. We will have no relations with President Saakashvili, who bears personal responsibility for killing hundreds of citizens of South Ossetia, but if Georgian authorities are serious about promoting peace and economic stability in the region, the first and most important step is to sign a non-violence agreement with the Government of South Ossetia. With that in place, the citizens of South Ossetia and the citizens of Georgia could very well embark together on the road to reconciliation, a partnership that would benefit everyone.—Eduard Kokoity, President, The Republic of South Ossetia.

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